

Section 18

PERSON TO WEAPON RELATIONSHIP

Person used this weapon to kill:	WUser	18-3
Weapon killed this person:	WusedOn	

First purchaser: Fpurc	18-4
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Person used this weapon to kill: WUser
Weapon killed this person: WUsedOn

Name	Definition
WUser	Did this person use this weapon (either against another person or against him or herself)?
WUsedOn	Was the weapon used to kill this person?

Uses

“WUser” links the person with the weapon or weapon type they chose. “WUsedOn” links the victim to the weapon used to kill the victim. The variables also indirectly link victims to suspects.

Discussion

The intention of “WUsedOn” is to capture the use of weapons by both suspects and suicide victims. In the case of a single suicide, indicate the victim. If the incident involves multiple suspects, it may be difficult to determine which suspect actually used the weapon or weapon type to cause the injury. In this case, code unknown for “WUser”. Record the person-weapon variables for all manners of death, including suicide.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field Length	Priority	Primacy
WUser	Person used this weapon to kill:	PW_Relation	Number	1	LR/LR/O	PR/CME/SHR
WUsedOn	Weapon killed this person:	PW_Relation	Number	1	LR/LR/O	PR/CME/SHR

Response Options:

WUser
and
WUsedOn

0	No
1	Yes
8	Not applicable
9	Unknown

First purchaser: Fpurc**Name Definition**

Fpurc	Identifies whether the person (victim or suspect) was the first purchaser of the gun
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Uses

This data element will be used by sites working with a law enforcement agency and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) to conduct traces on guns used in fatalities. Traces establish the first purchaser and the place of purchase. The data element summarizes trace results by identifying whether the victim or suspect in a case was the first purchaser of the gun. The data can be used, for example, to help identify shooters who obtained their guns from the secondary market. It can identify victims who used their own guns to kill a suspected criminal in self-defense or whose own guns were used against them in a homicide.

Discussion

This variable is triggered only in cases in which a trace has been successfully completed. It is completed for each person in the case to indicate whether they or a person sharing their surname or address was the first purchaser.

Name	Label	Table	Type	Field Length	Priority	Primacy
Fpurc	First purchaser:	PW_Relation	Number	1	O/O	ATF/PR

Response Options:

Fpurc

- 0 Person was not the 1st purchaser
- 1 Person was 1st purchaser (match on full name)
- 2 Person shares surname and address of 1st purchaser
- 3 Person shares only address of 1st purchaser
- 4 Person shares only surname of 1st purchaser
- 8 Not applicable
- 9 Unknown

Data Standards or Guidelines

NVISS